

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 09388 281440Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 CU-04
ACDA-12 DLOS-09 OES-07 /123 W
-----022881 281740Z /50

R 281417Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6346
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 09388

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: GE, JA
SUBJECT: GDR OFFICIAL ON FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER'S
VISIT TO JAPAN

REF: TOKYO 18024 (NOTAL)

1. THE EAST GERMANS HAVE TENDED TO TAKE A MORE
UPBEAT VIEW THAN THE JAPANESE OF THE RESULTS OF GDR
FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER'S DEC. 6-12 TRIP TO JAPAN
(REFTEL). DR. GEYER, CHIEF OF THE USA, JAPANESE,
AUSTRALIAN SECTION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHO WAS
IN TOKYO BEFORE AND DURING FISCHER'S VISIT, TOLD
THE DCM DEC. 23 THE GDR WAS "HIGHLY SATISFIED"
WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE VISIT. ACCORDING TO
GEYER, ONE OF THE MORE POSITIVE RESULTS WAS
AGREEMENT TO HOLD REGULAR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS AT THE
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DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE SECTION CHIEFS
LEVELS. GEYER SAID THESE WOULD TAKE PLACE ON A
QUARTERLY BASIS AND COVER BILATERAL AS WELL AS
MULTILATERAL ISSUES. THE EAST GERMANS HAVE BEEN
SEEKING TO HOLD REGULAR POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS
AT THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER OR HIGHER LEVEL
WITH A NUMBER OF WESTERN COUNTRIES, AND THEY MUST

COUNT THIS BREAKTHROUGH WITH THE JAPANESE AS A REAL PLUS.

2. GEYER ALSO NOTED THAT THE GDR AND JAPAN WOULD EXCHANGE PARLIAMENTARY VISITS, ADDING THAT A JAPANESE DIET DELEGATION CONSISTING OF ALL MAJOR PARTIES WOULD VISIT THE GDR IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1978. ON THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT FISCHER AND SONODA SIGNED, GEYER EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT THE JAPAN FOUNDATION WAS INVOLVED; HE NOTED ALSO THAT THE AGREEMENT PROVIDED SPECIFICS ON THE TYPES OF EXCHANGES TO BE UNDERTAKEN.

3. ON THE VARIOUS POLITICAL TOPICS DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT, GEYER ASSERTED THE GDR AND THE JAPANESE HAVE A "CONGRUITY OF VIEWS" ON SOUTH EAST ASIA, BUT WOULD NOT ELABORATE. WITH RESPECT TO CHINA, HE SAID THE JAPANESE WERE PREPARED TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS AND THE GDR WAS PREPARED TO LISTEN. ON AN ASIAN SECURITY CONFERENCE, GEYER WAS EVASIVE, NOTING ONLY THAT IT WAS DISCUSSED AND THAT IT COULD NOT TAKE THE PATH OF THE HELSINKI CSCE BECAUSE CONDITIONS WERE DIFFERENT. HE CLAIMED THAT, ON A NUMBER OF NORTH-SOUTH AND LOS ISSUES, IT WAS "ASTONISHING" HOW GDR AND JAPANESE POSITIONS COINCIDED. HE ATTRIBUTED THIS IN PART TO THE FACT THAT BOTH STATES WERE HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

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INDUSTRIALIZED YET RESOURCES-POOR.

4. GEYER WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE TV COVERAGE GIVEN FISCHER'S VISIT, CLAIMING THAT ONE OF HIS INTERVIEWS WAS AIRED FOR EIGHT MINUTES DURING THE REGULAR EVENING NEWS SHOW.

5. COMMENT: WHILE THE RESULTS OF FISCHER'S TRIP TO JAPAN MAY HAVE BEEN MODEST FROM THE JAPANESE STANDPOINT; IT SEEMS FAIRLY OBVIOUS THE EAST GERMANS WILL USE THE TRIP IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRY OBSERVERS TO SHOW HOW RELATIONS CAN AND SHOULD DEVELOP BETWEEN THE GDR AND THIRD, PARTICULARLY WESTERN, COUNTRIES. BOLEN

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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